IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kazue SAKO

Title:

ELECTRONIC TENDER SYSTEM

Appl. No.:

09/472,900

Filing Date:

12/28/1999

Examiner:

To be assigned

Art Unit:

2161



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Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing of the first Office action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the foreign-language document is described in the present specification. An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). An English language abstract is attached to Document A1.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date March 2, 2001

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<u>Page 1 of 1</u>

Form PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 059729/0111		SERIAL NO. 09/472,900				
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)										
DDa		KIKUCHI, Hiroaki et al., "Multi-Round Anonymous Auction Protocols", IEICE Transaction on Information and								
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